

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 MOSCOW 04731 071933Z

66-60

ACTION H-03

INFO OCT-01 EUR-06 ISO-00 SS-07 NSC-06 AID-01 /024 W

----- 026192

R 071723Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8985

INFO AMCONSUL LENINGRAD

C O N F I D E N T I A L MOSCOW 4731

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ETRD, PFOR, EFIN, US, UR

SUBJ: VISIT TO MOSCOW BY CONGRESSMEN BINGHAM, BIESTER AND
WHALEN

1. SUMMARY: CODEL BINGHAM'S BRIEF VISIT TO MOSCOW WAS A DEFINITE SUCCESS. IT PERMITTED A FRANK EXCHANGE OF VIEWS BETWEEN THREE MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE FOREIGN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE AND SOVIET OFFICIALS IN TWO IMPORTANT FOREIGN AFFAIRS INSTITUTES, THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE, THE FOREIGN TRADE BANK AND SEVERAL LEADING WRITERS AND COMMENTATORS FROM THE SOVIET PRESS. END SUMMARY.

2. FOUR-DAY VISIT OF CODEL BINGHAM TO MOSCOW PROCEEDED SATISFACTORILY, PARTICULARLY IN VIEW OF FACT CONGRESSMEN CAME IN PRIVATE CAPACITY AND WITH NO SOVIET SPONSOR. CONGRESSMAN BINGHAM, AND WIFE, WHO ACCOMPANIED HIM FOR MOST APPOINTMENTS, ARRIVED EARLY AFTERNOON MARCH 30. CONGRESSMAN BIESTER ARRIVED AFTERNOON MARCH 31 AND CONGRESSMAN WHALEN ARRIVED EVENING APRIL 1. ALL THREE DEPARTED FOR PRAGUE EARLY MORNING APRIL 3.

3. EMBASSY ARRANGED MEETINGS FOR CODEL AT INSTITUTE OF WORLD ECONOMY AND INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS (PROFESSOR BYKOV), USA INSTITUTE (DEPUTY DIRECTOR EVGENIY SHERSHNEV AND POLITICAL-MILITARY SPECIALIST MIKHAIL MIL'SHTEYN), USSR BANK FOR FOREIGN TRADE (DEPUTY CHAIRMAN MAKEEV) AND MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE (DEPUTY MINISTER MANZHULO). SOVIETS, HOWEVER, REFUSED TO SET APPOINTMENTS FOR PROCURATOR GENERAL RUDENKO OR HIS DEPUTY AND ALSO REFUSED TO ARRANGE FOR CALL ON MFA OFFICIALS. ON EVENING
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 MOSCOW 04731 071933Z

OF APRIL 1 CODEL ATTENDED DINNER GIVEN BY DCM AT WHICH NINE

COMMENTATORS FROM SOVIET MEDIA (INCLUDING PRAVDA, IZVESTIYA, AND RADIO MOSCOW) WERE PRESENT. FOR MORE THAN HOUR AFTER DINNER CODEL FIELDERED QUESTIONS FROM GROUP REGARDING US POLITICAL SYSTEM, ROLE OF CONGRESS IN FOREIGN AFFAIRS, U.S. ATTACHMENT TO DETENTE AND THE BACKGROUND OF CONGRESSIONAL ACTION ON THE TRADE ACT.

4. ON MORNING APRIL 2 CONGRESSMEN BREAKFASTED IN EMBASSY'S NEW COMMERCIAL OFFICE WITH REPRESENTATIVES OF MOST OF 19 AMERICAN FIRMS AND BANKS NOW MAINTAINING PERMANENT OFFICERS IN MOSCOW. AMBASSADOR STOESEL'S LUNCHEON IN HONOR OF CODEL WAS ATTENDED INTER ALIA BY MIL'SHTEYN OF USA INSTITUTE, BY DEPUTY FOREIGN TRADE MINISTER MANZHULO AND BY K.G. GEDOSEYEV, DEPUTY DIRECTOR, USA DIVISION, MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS. ALSO PRESENT AT LUNCHEON WAS V.A. BRYKIN, OLD FRIEND OF CONGRESSMAN BINGHAM WHEN CONGRESSMAN WAS MEMBER OF USUN IN EARLY 1960'S. BRYKIN IS NOW DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF FOREIGN TRADE ACADEMY IN MOSCOW. AT BRYKIN'S REQUEST, CONGRESSMAN BIESTER GAVE LECTURE AT FOREIGN TRADE ACADEMY ON AFTERNOON OF APRIL 2, THE FIRST TO BE GIVEN BY A US CONGRESSMAN IN ACADEMY'S 20-YEAR HISTORY.

5. CODEL'S MEETINGS WITH SOVIETS WERE ESPECIALLY INTERESTING FOR FRANK, DIRECT EXCHANGES OF VIEWS ON ISSUES OF US-SOVIET TRADE, JEWISH EMIGRATION FROM USSR AND CURRENT AND FUTURE ROLE OF DETENTE. ATMOSPHERE THROUGHOUT WAS FRIENDLY AND MARKED BY AGREEMENT BOTH SIDES THAT THERE MUST BE CONTINUED EFFORTS TO OBTAIN MUTUAL UNDERSTANDING AND TO REACH AGREEMENT ON ISSUES INVOLVED. AS CHAIRMAN OF HOUSE FOREIGN AFFAIRS SUB-COMMITTEE ON INTERNATIONAL TRADE AND COMMERCE, CONGRESSMAN BINGHAM STATED FLATLY THAT HE SAW LITTLE POSSIBILITY OF ANY EARLY CHANGES IN US TRADE LEGISLATION, NOTED HIS REGRET OVER RESTRICTIONS ON EX-IM BANK CREDITS WHICH HE SAID HE AND OTHER MEMBERS OF THE CONGRESS HAD NOT EXPECTED. HE EXPRESSED HOPE THAT SOME CHANGES IN EX-IM LEGISLATION MIGHT EVENTUALLY BE MADE--ALTHOUGH HE MENTIONED NO TIME FRAME. BINGHAM ALSO EXPRESSED CONCERN OVER APPARENT DECLINE IN LEVEL OF JEWISH EMIGRATION FROM USSR AND EMPHASIZED THAT POSITIVE APPROACH ON EMIGRATION ISSUE BY SOVIET UNION WOULD BE HELPFUL STEP FORWARD, BOTH FOR DETENTE AND FOR FAVORABLE CONGRESSIONAL ACTION ON TRADE AND CREDITS.

6. ON EVENING OF APRIL SECOND, CONGRESSMAN BINGHAM AND WIFE--
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 MOSCOW 04731 071933Z

THROUGH ARRANGEMENTS MADE BY A US CORRESPONDENT--MET FOR APPROXIMATELY ONE HOUR WITH SOVIET DISSIDENT ACADEMICIAN ANDREY SAKHAROV IN SAKHAROV'S APARTMENT AND ALSO VISITED SEVERAL NON-CONFORMIST ARTISTS. (BINGHAM CHARACTERIZED SAKHAROV AS BITTER AND PESSIMISTIC, WITH MUCH OF HIS CONVERSATION CONCERNED WITH DANGERS OF DETENTE AND ESPECIALLY US EXPORT OF EQUIPMENT AND TECHNOLOGY TO THE USSR.)

7. SUMMING UP, EMBASSY REGARDS VISIT AS A USEFUL CONTRIBUTION
TO SOVIET-US UNDERSTANDING. DESPITE ITS BREVITY, IT CONFIRMED
ONCE AGAIN THE VALUE OF FACE-TO-FACE, ACROSS-THE-BOARD MEETINGS
AT VARIOUS LEVELS OF THE US AND SOVIET GOVERNMENTS AND ACADEMIC
COMMUNITIES.
STOESSEL

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: VISITS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 07 APR 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975MOSCOW04731
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750126-0473, D750120-0770
From: MOSCOW
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750475/aaaacqzv.tel
Line Count: 121
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION H
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 09 MAY 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <09 MAY 2003 by CunninFX>; APPROVED <12 MAY 2003 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: VISIT TO MOSCOW BY CONGRESSMEN BINGHAM, BIESTER AND WHALEN
TAGS: OREP, ETRD, PFOR, EFIN, US, UR, (BINGHAM, JONATHAN B), (BIESTER, EDWARD G), (WHALEN, CHARLES W), (BINGHAM), (WHALEN), (BIESTER)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006